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ABSTRACT

The booklet lists administrative and legislative recommendations from the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals. Suggestions are made for such priority action items as consumer involvement in planning and decision making, establishment of a federal programs coordinating center, and enactment of a comprehensive national health insurance program. Also addressed are the following topics: future plans of the Rehabilitation Services Administration; White House initiatives; state activities in such areas as legislation, architectural barriers, and public attitudes; plans for a White House Conference on library and information services; support for the transbus, an accessible bus; and teletype systems installed in the Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. (CL)

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SPECIAL ISSUE

White House Conference Follow-up

- Implementation Plan Ready
- RSA Plans for the Future
- White House Initiatives
- State Activities Update

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare • Office of the Assistant Secretary for Human Development Services

Office for Handicapped Individuals • Washington, D.C. 20201

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THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20201

June 20, 1978

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to join with the National Planning and Advisory Council of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals in forwarding to you this plan of administrative and legislative action for implementing the recommendations of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals. The Council has produced an extensive set of recommended actions.

The action items are based on the recommendations made by delegates to the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals, and reflect the accumulated experience of those delegates.

The Plan provides us with a valuable document that will serve as an important resource in developing legislative recommendations and program initiatives. I am creating within the Department a White House Conference Action Unit to initiate and monitor the tremendous amount of work that must be done to evaluate these actions steps carefully, to gather the type of information necessary to develop them fully, and to draft the detailed specifications. This Unit stands ready to provide liaison to the White House and Congressional staff offices.

The National Planning and Advisory Council and all of our nation's citizens who participated in the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals are to be thanked for providing us with the direction necessary to improve the capacity of persons with disabilities to live with full satisfaction in our society.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.

Enclosure

White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT, CONGRESS

The goal of having a clearly defined public policy on handicapped individuals took a giant step closer to reality recently when the final Implementation Plan developed from the recommendations of the delegates to the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals (WHCHI) was approved by Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Joseph A. Califano, Jr., and formally delivered to the President and Congress for specific action.

The plan is the culmination of an unprecedented two year effort that has involved thousands of handicapped individuals, their families, providers of services and other advocates (see White House Conference process, page 6). It is the most definitive documentation of the needs and required actions of disabled Americans to date.

The 420 final recommendations address in detail the health, education, vocation, social, and economic needs of individuals with disabilities, as well as federal activities which may impact on the lives of handicapped persons, including tax policy, urban and rural development, transportation, housing, culture and leisure time activities, national parks, business and commerce, and public awareness and sensitivity.

In his transmittal letter to the President and Congress, WHCHI Chairman Henry Viscardi, Jr., called for immediate attention to the following areas of concern identified in the Implementation Plan:

> Basic to the successful implementation of the delegate recommendations is the recognition in all major initiatives of the unique and distinct needs of individuals who are handicapped. From the Administration and Congress these initiatives should include, but not be limited to, welfare reform, tax reform, health insurance, labor and economic reform, and social security programs. Immediate action should be taken to appoint handicapped consumers, as well as their parents/guardians and organizations representing them, to all committees established to deal with these issues at the appropriate administrative levels.

> Focal point for the implementation of the actions recommended in the Implementation Plan shall be the establishment of a Federal center or office for coordinating programs and efforts on behalf of individuals with handicaps. The center or office would provide for the conduct of the critical functions of advocacy, coordination, assessment, enforcement, census data collections, barrier removal, public awareness, and assurance of all rights under the Civil Rights Act.

> Equally important, the Implementation Plan calls for the designation of an individual by the President to function at the Executive level in the policy and decision making process. This individual would be placed within the Office of the President and charged with responsibility for coordinating all policies and administrative activity which affect individuals with disabilities and their families.

From these initial actions, the government can begin to implement the specific strategies outlined in the Implementation Plan (see Priority Action Items, page 4).

Secretary Califano has already announced the formation of a seven-person Action Unit within DHEW to initiate, monitor and evaluate the recommendations in the plan, and to serve as liaison to the White House and Congressional staff offices.

The Action Unit will be supported by three advisory groups, including a DHEW Intra-Agency Committee; an Inter-Departmental Task Force; and an Advisory Council selected from groups involved in the White House Conference. Ten Advisory Council members would have disabilities. DHEW's Office of Human Development Services and Office for Handicapped Individuals will also provide program support for evaluation, legislation, and public information activities.

The final recommendations of the White House Conference have been grouped to reflect the activities to be performed by the Federal, State or local government or the

private sector. Specific Federal legislation or administrative responsibilities have been assigned for required action in each of the recommended areas—support of services, research, training, advocacy, enforcement, information, etc. Actions for which responsibility resides with State or local government or the private sector have been identified without attempting to fix precise responsibility due to the differences in processes and procedures among the many jurisdictions.

About 40 percent of the final recommendations will require the attention of Congress and the Federal Government. A significant portion of the actions will involve State and local government, and the remainder will be the responsibility of the private sector.

The Implementation Plan has been organized to allow the reader with a major service focus—health, transportation, housing, etc.—to read only that section and understand the action desired by the delegates to address those particular needs. Major areas of cross-cutting concerns, however, are addressed throughout the plan.

Recognition of the importance of inter-relationships among the needs of individuals with handicaps is emphasized as prerequisite for effective planning of human services and economic support systems. Representation of handicapped individuals at all levels of policy-setting and decision-making, and public awareness and the need for attitudinal change are also major cross-cutting concerns, as well as employment, training, education, human and civil rights, independent and alternative living arrangements, and attention to the unique and special needs of some individuals with disabilities.

Authors of the Implementation Plan stress that these cross-cutting concerns do not constitute a costly set of initiatives. Comprehensive planning, coordination, and administrative management can result in more efficient and cost-effective service delivery systems. Money saved through consolidation, redirection, retraining, and redeployment of existing dollar and human resources, and better communication among providers of similar services can be redirected into direct services for which there will be an economic return, an increase in productivity, a sense of self-fulfillment and for many, independence.

As the authors state, "It is simply reasonable and right to spend some time, thought and energy in order to address these legitimate concerns and rights of Americans with disabilities."

The National Planning and Advisory Committee notes, however, that the findings contained in the report of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals will remain nothing more than simply a report unless there is a viable implementation plan and a powerful commitment at the National, State and local levels. The Committee is confident that they have both.

Plans are already being made to implement some of the recommendations of delegates to the White House Conference. A specific list of initiatives recently proposed by the White House, a tentative agenda for action by DHEW's Rehabilitation Services Administration, and an update of activities at the state level are offered in this issue of *Programs for the Handicapped.*

Members of the White House Conference's National Planning and Advisory Council, who were the primary authors of the Implementation Plan, caution, however, that the plan is just a beginning. The real effort to insure that people with disabilities are able to participate fully in society and enjoy its benefits is still ahead. It is a task that will require the combined effort of government at all levels and the support and involvement of the entire nation to succeed.

An initial printing of the WHCHI Implementation Plan will include automatic distribution to all participants of the White House Conference and all Members of Congress. Additional distribution has not been determined at this time, however, so anyone interested in receiving a copy of the Implementation Plan should direct inquiries to:

Office for Handicapped Individuals, DHEW
Room 338D Hubert H. Humphrey Building
Washington, D.C. 20201

White House Conference Implementation Plan

Priority Action Items

The National Planning and Advisory Council has identified the following priority action items among the 810 recommendations and 142 resolutions passed by the delegates to the White House Conference on Handicapped individuals:

FORMULATION OF NATIONAL POLICY

The Administration shall move immediately to formulate and issue a strong statement of national policy to ensure that individuals with disabilities may participate fully in our society with full enjoyment of its benefits.

Formulation of this policy shall include and go beyond reference to health, education, vocation, social, and economic needs of individuals with disabilities and encompass all Federal activities which interact with people and which may impact on the lives of persons with disabilities, including tax policy, urban and rural development, transportation, housing, recreation, national parks, business and commerce, and public awareness and sensitivity.

The Administration shall include individuals with disabilities, their parents or guardians, and their organizations in this formulation of policy.

RECOGNITION OF THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

The Administration and the Congress shall recognize and respond to the unique and distinct needs of individuals with disabilities in all program initiatives and operations, including but not limited to welfare reform, tax policy, health insurance, transportation, and housing.

Recognition of these needs is a requisite for implementing the concept of independent living in the least restrictive environment, the active development and adaption to technology, and the appropriate and most effective delivery of services.

CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT IN PLANNING AND DECISION MAKING

The Administration shall take immediate action to appoint individuals with disabilities, their parents or guardians, and persons from organizations representing them to all boards, committees, and commissions in decision making roles on substantive issues which impact on their lives as individual citizens. Not less than one-half of the membership of such planning and decision making bodies shall be consumers with disabilities. Individuals who are aged, from minority backgrounds, disabled veterans, and individuals from rural regions shall be among those selected or appointed.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FEDERAL PROGRAMS COORDINATING CENTER

The Congress shall establish a Federal center or office, with firm statutory authority and adequate funding, to coordinate all Federal programs and expenditures on behalf of individuals with disabilities. Center functions shall include approval authority for fiscal and personal allocation in new and existing programs, continuing needs assessment, evaluation of program effectiveness using appropriate measures of program outcome, development of objectives and standards for program services, monitoring of enforcement of laws affecting handicapped persons, identification of research and personnel training needs, development of legislative recommendations, public awareness and advocacy, and assurance of equality of opportunity for individuals with disabilities. This office shall include: (1) a Presidential advisor designated as the White House specialist on handicapped individuals; (2) a National Council of Handicapped Individuals, the membership of which shall be one-half disabled consumer, one-fourth parents or guardians of handicapped individuals, and one-fourth from organizations and professional persons providing services or representing persons who are disabled; and (3) a Professional Advisory Council composed of designated administrators from Federal agencies with legal responsibilities to serve handicapped individuals.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Federal Government shall establish a national information clearinghouse and information system, with adequate resources, to ensure systematic delivery of information to providers of services at all levels, as well as to persons with disabilities, researchers, and the general public. An integral part of the national clearinghouse would be a public awareness program with maximum involvement of individuals with disabilities and their family members, including disabled persons who are aged or members of minority groups. The national information clearinghouse may be a part of the Federal center to be established.

ENACTMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

The Congress shall enact a comprehensive National Health Insurance program to include a minimum of the following:

- medical care of individuals who cannot obtain medical insurance because of "pre-existing conditions";
- an expanded program of preventive medicine in health services to prevent disability and exacerbation of disability;
- provision that individuals with disabilities may become employed without fear of losing health insurance benefits;
- provision for home based care, and appropriate support services, such as attendants, accessible transportation, prescription medicine and supplies, self-help aids and equipment or devices; and
- emphasis on the needs of persons requiring long term care and assisted living arrangements.

IDENTIFICATION OF A SINGLE COMPLIANCE/ENFORCEMENT UNIT

The Administration shall establish a single administrative unit in the Department of Justice to enforce all civil rights activities related to handicapped individuals, including all sections of Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

AMEND CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL SERVICE ENABLING LEGISLATION

The Congress shall (1) amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include individuals with disabilities, both physical and mental, as among these covered, and shall (2) amend the laws governing Federal employment to extend to the disabled job applicant and employee the protections now afforded minorities, the aged, and women.

REMOVE DISINCENTIVES TO WORK IN EXISTING PROGRAMS

The Congress shall amend Social Security legislation to remove disincentives to work which currently exist in the Supplemental Security Income and the Social Security Disability Insurance programs, which arise from defining "disability" in terms of ability to earn a minimal amount of income. The basic problem becomes magnified when such a definition also governs access to a wide variety of other supportive services, including medical care through Medicaid and Medicare, respectively. Congress shall also increase allowances under these programs to persons who are disabled, and remove the one-third reduction in benefits for persons receiving Supplemental Security Income who reside in the household of another person.

CONTINUUM OF BASIC, CAREER TRAINING, AND ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Congress shall establish programs and priorities which ensure a continuum of education opportunities tailored to the needs of the disabled person regardless of age which enables that person to achieve maximum potential, whether it is education of self in order to promote healthful, enjoyable living, or whether it is vocational in order to increase options for economic independence.

1980 CENSUS AND RELATED DATA COLLECTION

The Administration shall develop and fund broad-based data collection efforts regarding persons with disabilities beginning with the 1980 Census, the 1981 follow-on studies and subsequent data and survey efforts. The census data required on individuals with disabilities shall include their numbers, characteristics, geographic distribution, age at onset, ethnic origin and needs by age grouping from infancy through senescense. Data collected shall be consistent with data needs of service programs for planning and providing appropriate services to individuals with disabilities.

ACTION TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

The Administration shall commit itself to the recommendations of the delegates to the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals, and this implementation plan, as its agenda for planning and implementing programs for individuals with disabilities. In development of the actions called for in the Implementation Plan, the Administration shall draw on such in-depth studies as the recent "Returning the Mentally Handicapped to the Community," and shall institute immediately such other evaluation activities and studies as are necessary for full program development and action.

White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals, May 1977.

Unprecedented Effort of Thousands Led to WHCHI Implementation Plan

The arduous process that went into the final Implementation Plan of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals had its roots in the passage of the 1974 Amendments to the Rehabilitation Act. The Congress, in its desire to provide all handicapped Americans equal opportunity, equal access, and equal rights, amended the original legislation of 1973 to include, among other things, the "White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals Act."

This act authorized and provided funds for a national convention for the purpose of assessing the problems of handicapped individuals, generating national awareness of those problems, and developing recommendations for legislative and administrative actions to allow individuals with handicaps to live independently, with dignity, and with integration into community life.

Half the representatives to this conference were disabled persons, 25 percent were parents or guardians of persons with handicaps, and the remainder were from service delivery programs, organizations of handicapped individuals, provider organizations, and other interested individuals or groups.

A 28-member National Planning and Advisory Council (NPAC) composed of handicapped individuals, educators, rehabilitation specialists, medical personnel, social workers, government officials, and members of families that included relatives with disabilities was created to provide guidance for the planning, conduct, and follow-up of the Conference.

This first part of the Congressionally mandated process called for every State and territory, including the District of Columbia, to conduct local forums prior to the National Conference. Over 100,000 persons took part in these "mini-conferences," held in 1976, and more than 22,000 recommendations were produced.

The National Conference was convened in May 1977. Over 3700 delegates from State conferences, delegates-at-large (representing minorities and severely disabled), alternates, observers, and guests gathered in Washington to shape the recommendations of the local forums into a viable national policy. The original recommendations were synthesized and prioritized into 3,500 recommendations under 287 issues prior to the national meeting. After discussion and debate, delegates were then asked to vote their first, second and third choices of action from among these recommendations. The final result of the conference was 810 recommendations and 142 resolutions, which were voted on by mail after the Conference.

The National Planning and Advisory Council then incorporated these recommendations and regulations into six papers focusing on health, education, economics, social, special and cross-cutting concerns, which comprised the *Final Report* of the White House Conference.

With the help of 15 State conference coordinators, the NPAC further refined the recommendations of the delegates to the White House Conference into a formal Implementation Plan. The Plan consists of 420 specific recommended actions on the part of Federal, State, and local government and the private sector.

Finally, the Implementation Plan was reviewed for technical accuracy by a DHEW group appointed by Secretary Califano after final draft approval by the NPAC. Presentation to the President and the Congress was accomplished June 20, 1978, when the Secretary signed the transmittal letter.

"There remains much to be done . . ."

By Dr. Victor A. Galloway

WHCHI National Planning and Advisory Council

A little over a year has passed since delegates representing handicapped citizens across the country met at the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals. The enthusiasm, excitement, and common voice that was then shared by those delegates as they caucused for votes and support has abated somewhat. Their recommendations, their involvement, their spirit and intense effort have been encased within the massive conference *Final Report*, which stands on shelves across the nation as a silent reminder of those dramatic and historical days. In some quarters the silence is deafening because of its stark contrast to the noise and clamor that preceded and was the conference at which handicapped individuals and their advocates assembled their legislative and administrative recommendations.

Thirty-seven hundred people representing thirty-five million mentally and physically disabled Americans met during that week in May. The conference was both the culmination of years of preparation by individuals and advocacy groups who sought to focus national attention on the needs and rights of handicapped individuals, and the beginning of legislative and administrative programming and action designed to rectify past wrongs and ensure that our handicapped citizens are provided equal status and protection under our laws. Yet, this year the action has been replaced by a sense of anxiety that the momentum that was so intense during the conference may have receded . . . anxiety resulting from the less visible and less dramatic nature of the implementation process. Progress has, however, been made. The implementation of the recommendations and fulfillment of commitments made by our political and administrative leaders have begun.

The greatest impact of the Conference has probably been at the state level. Several states have already held follow-up conferences. These conferences have focused on their previous recommendations and the success with which these recommendations were adopted at the National Conference. Impact has also continued to be felt at the national level in the areas of transportation and housing. President Carter's recent reiteration of his support for the Transbus is an example of the continued effectiveness of the White House Conference. Ms. Patricia Harris, Secretary of HUD, who voiced strong support for housing for handicapped individuals at the conference, has been responsible for a number of pieces of legislation that seek to implement her support.

The surge of interest and support for Section 504 has undoubtedly been the result of the momentum generated by the White House Conference, as was the support demonstrated for the concept of Civil Rights for the handicapped. However, these examples of individual initiatives and programming have been dimmed by the lack of decisive action at the federal level. The establishment of the interim Action Unit which was to oversee the implementation activities during this year has only recently begun. Appointments to this interim group have been hampered by Federal personnel ceilings; only because of the commitment of Mr. Robert Humphreys, Commissioner of RSA has some progress been made with the staffing of this group.

The reorganization of RSA has also hampered the implementation of the White House Conference recommendations. Time and effort have been diverted from legislative and administrative initiatives regarding the implementation effort to concerns over organizational and structural matters. Instead of the dynamic leadership and direction the conference participants had expected at the federal level there has emerged activity and energy concerned with maintaining a holding pattern while the RSA reorganization is completed.

A new source of anxiety has emerged in the form of Proposition 13 in California. Legislators across the country are taking another hard look at their state priorities. The Center for Independent Living in Berkeley, a model program, has been one of the victims of the 60% cut in property taxes in California. The Center's budget was reduced by 25%. The number of existing programs for handicapped persons in other states that will also face reduced state allocations is at the present a perplexing unknown.

Although there have been setbacks in the implementation of the White House Conference recommendations, the commitment and support of the Administration and Congress have not lessened. There remains much to be done to perpetuate the influence and impact emanating from the White House Conference. Handicapped individuals and their advocates must renew their efforts and not become discouraged by implementation efforts thus far; if the motivation and enthusiasm that existed during the Conference can be regained, then the goals established at the Conference can be achieved.

Dr. Galloway is Director of the Division of Education, Model Secondary School for the Deaf, Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C.

The Rehabilitation Services Administration Plans for The Future: A Tentative Agenda

The design of new Federal systems to meet the comprehensive needs of handicapped individuals must await the development of a national, coordinated policy. In an earlier concept paper on the problems, needs, and approaches to solutions for disabled Americans, however, Robert R. Humphreys, Commissioner of DHEW's Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) strongly recommended some major new initiatives in legislation and administrative action that can bring more rationality, coherence, and efficiency to the Federal Government's efforts to begin to build the capacity for providing a nationwide service network for handicapped people.

Commissioner Humphreys believes that the reorganization of the Office of Human Development Services, which includes RSA, has established the structural framework necessary to begin this effort. Pending the specific recommendations of the DHEW Action Unit and the three supporting advisory councils, RSA is tentatively looking toward implementation of new concepts in a number of areas.

Three major legislative initiatives have been presented to the Congress as proposals to amend and extend the Rehabilitation Act and the Developmental Disabilities Act. As of this writing, these and other proposals are still pending in Congress. If passed, the Administration's proposals will fill major gaps in services to people with disabilities, and will build capacities in communities, States and the Federal Government for developing a comprehensive service network. They are:

- Independent living rehabilitation services will be established, first on a limited scale through project grants.
- Community based information and technical assistance centers will be established in each region to assist local government in meeting the needs of disabled residents.
- An expanded system of government-industry interaction to provide jobs to disabled people will be initiated, with national guidance and direction provided by RSA, which will plan and build a web of such interactions across the nation.

Commissioner Humphreys notes, however, that these legislative proposals are quite modest, and will not begin to meet the total need. They do represent a beginning, and a "national commitment to provide a continuum of care for our disabled citizens."

Some additional new directions currently being explored are:

- Working toward a fully coordinated Head Start-special education-vocational education-vocational rehabilitation program, nationwide.
- Undertaking a comprehensive national survey of disability and service needs, with consequent development of a national data system on disability.
- Mounting a major outreach and referral program with respect to disabled individuals who are egregiously underserved—those with multiple handicaps of physical or mental disability combined with cultural and economic deprivation.
- Creating a coordinated program of deinstitutionalization involving transitional living, group homes, and habilitation and rehabilitation services.
- Eliminating disincentives to rehabilitation, including the retention of Medicare-Medicaid benefits and food stamps after employment.
- Supporting legal assistance centers for the disabled to protect their rights under Title V of the Rehabilitation Act.
- Establishing a nationwide system of client assistance programs so that through omsbudsmen, disabled individuals will be able to "fight the system" to obtain the fullest possible service benefits.
- Demonstrating new approaches to meeting the transportation and residential needs of disabled people.
- Initiating a cooperative research effort in central nervous system (spinal cord) regeneration, and in areas of disability prevention, amelioration, and treatment.
- Adopting new focus for international rehabilitation interchanges to take advantage of technological and service delivery innovations of developed nations.
- Exploring ways to meet the need for new or renovated rehabilitation facilities and physical improvements in institutions which house physically and mentally disabled people.

Humphreys says that the potential now exists for dramatic breakthroughs for disabled Americans, and adds, "We must have the will and the determination to see to it that being disabled in America is not a continuation of that which has gone on before. We must, as a government, reinforce our commitment to meet head-on one of the major challenges of our day—bringing into the mainstream of American society a vulnerable and precious human resource—the millions of disabled citizens in our land.

White House Initiatives

During the Presidential campaign and in several public statements in the last year and a half, President Carter has expressed his strong desire to see the role of the Federal Government in helping handicapped persons significantly enhanced. Progress has been made in this area—namely Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Education for All Handicapped Children Act—but much remains to be done.

The White House has pledged its full effort in fulfilling those past commitments, and recently listed six specific initiative areas involving complex interagency coordination designed to improve health care for handicapped people. In follow-up letters to all Cabinet Secretaries in June, the White House requested that each Secretary designate staff for their departments to work on the following issues:

1. Evaluate the need for continuing the present 29 month Medicare waiting period requirement.
2. Evaluate and propose approaches to improve and integrate research and development efforts government-wide.
3. Evaluate present efforts and propose new methods to encourage deinstitutionalization (independent living) through the furnishing of additional support services and the training and hiring of auxiliary health workers and aids, including unemployed handicapped workers.
4. Propose an Interagency action plan for obtaining Senate ratification of the Florence Agreement—an agreement which would facilitate the free flow among countries of products and materials for physically and mentally handicapped persons, with all trade barriers eliminated.
5. Evaluate present efforts and propose improved ways to encourage more medical students to enter rehabilitative medicine, and to integrate into the general curriculum an awareness of the needs of handicapped patients.
6. Prepare an interagency plan with options for assuring effective government-wide coordination of handicapped programs and policies, including follow-up to the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals.

White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals

PUBLICATIONS

Volume I: Awareness Papers: Twenty-four background and reference papers in a 466 page bound volume prepared for Conference delegates by subject matter authorities to serve as basic resource material for discussions during the Conference. Papers concern the problems and needs of persons with handicapping conditions.

Single copies are available from the Office for Handicapped Individuals, DHEW, 338D Hubert H. Humphrey Building, Washington, D.C. 20201. Include a self-addressed mailing label.

Volume II: Final Report: Three separately bound sections totaling 797 pages:

Part A: Principal document of *Final Report* citing in abbreviated fashion the top three recommendations in each issue under the topic areas of Health, Education, Social, Economics, Special and Miscellaneous Concerns, as voted upon by delegates at the Conference in May 1977. In addition, summaries of the history of the Conference, the Open Forum, and Special Meetings and Seminars are presented. 168 page bound volume.

Part B: Statistical section of the *Final Report*. Included are statistics relating to Conference attendance, financial data, types of disabling conditions represented by delegates and demographic voting charts.

Part C: Lists all recommendations and all resolutions as passed by mail vote by delegates following the Conference. Names of State Directors, Conference Delegates, and Alternates are listed by state and territory. Also listed are Delegates-at-Large. 320 page bound volume.

Available for purchase at $16.50 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Order by document name and stock number 040-000-00388-6. NOTE: Volume II is available *only* in boxed sets. Individual parts of Volume II are not available for purchase through the Government Printing Office.

A 140 page summary and review of the *Final Report* has been prepared and is available free while supplies last. Send self-addressed mailing label to *Final Report Summary*, Office for Handicapped Individuals, DHEW, 338D Hubert H. Humphrey Building, Washington, D.C. 20201.

White House Conference

State Activities Update

by David Pfeiffer, Ph.D.
Massachusetts State Director of the
White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals

Michael Giampietro
Associate Director in Massachusetts of the
White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals

(The following report was presented by Dr. Pfeiffer to the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D.C., May 4, 1978.)

Progress in implementing the recommendations of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals is characterized by a slow yet a steady pace. Social and political change in our system usually occurs in increments and that is what is happening now. The Final Report of the White House Conference on the national level was presented to Rosalynn Carter and several Members of Congress in a White House ceremony on March 2nd of this year. At that time, many persons said that implementation efforts must begin immediately. The Final Report and the Implementation Plan must not, it was repeatedly said, be relegated to a dusty shelf in the archives. We, the members of the handicapped community, are taking upon ourselves the task of ensuring that activity on the federal level is initiated and carried through.

Interwoven with the implementation of White House Conference recommendations are two key pieces of federal legislation: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Public Law 94-142, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act. These acts are of major concern also to the governors of various states. As a result, the National Governors' Association established a Program for the Handicapped Implementation Working Group under the auspices of the Committee on Human Resources which is chaired by Michael Dukakis, Governor of Massachusetts. The Working Group will assess the implications of the various pieces of federal legislation concerned with handicapped individuals—especially Section 504 and P.L. 94-142—and the White House Conference recommendations. It will then attempt to devise viable mechanisms for meeting the responsibilities devolving upon the states as a result of this legislation. Ms. Rita Hull, Director of the Michigan Commission on Employment of the Handicapped, will chair this group. A delegate to the White House Conference held last May, Ms. Hull's present duties include serving as the Michigan State Director of the Conference.

A great deal of activity is taking place on the state level. In an attempt to gather data, Ms. Marilynne Tilson, Assistant to the Deputy Executive Director of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, obtained written statements from ten states and from Puerto Rico. These memoranda were supplemented by telephone interviews with leaders of the handicapped community in seven other states. **A sample of 30% of the 56 states and territories is thus represented in this survey**. Although one must be cautious when inferring from the sample to the larger population in this type of survey, it must be noted that these results correspond with the situation as perceived by persons who are active nation-wide, statewide, and locally in advocating the implementation of the White House Conference recommendations.

Every state reported that groups of handicapped persons were pushing for the implementation of White House Conference recommendations and that, as a result, actions were being taken within both the legislative and executive branches. **Legislation** was passed in 35% of the states. South Dakota, with at least 35 pieces of legislation, and Maryland, with 12, led the way. New Hampshire and California—while not part of the sample—have also passed numerous pieces of legislation. In addition, legislation is introduced and in process in 59% of the states. In 53% of the states, legislation is being prepared for introduction. A number of states (71%) mentioned that action had been undertaken through executive orders or policy directives. Every state reported either that legislation was being prepared, had been introduced or passed, and/or that executive action had been undertaken.

While many states have had **architectural barriers** codes in effect for a long time, the White House Conference spurred 53% of the states to pass legislation creating or improving such regulations. New Jersey, for example, promulgated what its leaders believe to be the most stringent set of accessibility regulations in the nation. Prince Georges County became the first local governmental unit in the State of Maryland to pass strong architectural barriers legislation. In South Dakota, legislation was

NOTICE

As a participant or interested party in the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals, you have been included in this special mailing of *Programs for the Handicapped*. We hope you have found the information on follow-up activities to the White House Conference helpful.

If you wish to remain on the mailing lists of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals

and/or

Programs for the Handicapped Newsletter, you must fill out this form and mail it to us!

Programs for the Handicapped is published bimonthly, without charge by the Office for Handicapped Individuals, DHEW. Our objective is to bring you news on all activities of the Federal Government concerning handicapped individuals, and to publicize both private and public resources serving handicapped persons.

Instructions For Filling Out Page iii

FIRST: Fill out items A, B and C on page iii.

Item A: Mark the box or boxes that apply to you as a reader of *Programs for the Handicapped*.

Example: If you are the parent of a handicapped child and you also work with an information and referral center or agency to help other parents find services for their children, you would check **box a** and **box 1**.

Item B: Fill in the blocks for Item B with you name and address. **Leave one space blank between words.**

Example:

1 MR (TITLE) JOHN A (FIRST NAME AND MIDDLE INITIAL) SMITH (LAST NAME)

2 DIRECTOR (BUSINESS TITLE)

3 HUMAN SERVICES SECTION (DIVISION)

4 AJAX RESEARCH INC (ORGANIZATION)

5 9810 PARKWOOD AVE (STREET, ROUTE, OR BOX NUMBER, STREET NAME)

6 DALLAS (CITY) TX (STATE) 21649 (ZIP)

(Note: The acceptable abbreviations for each state are listed at the bottom of page iv.)

Item C: Mark one or both boxes.

SECOND: Cut along the dotted line between pages ii and iii.

Then fold page iv to reveal the return address and postage.

Staple once, at bottom of page iv.

THIRD: Mail back to us – no postage necessary.

CUT ALONG THIS DOTTED LINE

Send This Page Back To US !!!!!

ITEM A: Check which category of reader you are: (check all that apply)

a. ☐ Handicapped individual or family member
b. ☐ General public
c. ☐ Professional working in service programs (what kind? _____)
d. ☐ Government, Federal
e. ☐ " , State
f. ☐ " , Local or other
g. ☐ Voluntary national organization (or one of its chapters)
h. ☐ Voluntary state or local organization of or for the disabled
i. ☐ College or university
j. ☐ Other schools – public or private
k. ☐ Library (what kind? _____)
l. ☐ Information provider to others
m. ☐ Media/writer/communicator by profession
n. ☐ International
o. ☐ NONE OF THE ABOVE: I am _____

ITEM B

1 TITLE | FIRST NAME AND MIDDLE INITIAL | LAST NAME

2 BUSINESS TITLE

3 DIVISION

4 ORGANIZATION

5 STREET, ROUTE OR BOX NUMBER, STREET NAME

6 CITY | STATE | ZIP

ITEM C:

☐ I wish to remain on the mailing list to receive any further information on the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals

☐ I would like to continue to receive *Programs for the Handicapped* newsletter.

Fold This Page In Thirds And Staple To Close. Be Sure Address And Postage Are Showing On The Outside Of The Folded Sheet

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Office for Handicapped Individuals, DHEW
338-D Hubert Humphrey Building
Washington, D.C. 20201

Attn: **PFH mailing list**

Abbreviations for the states (use in ITEM B, line 4)

Name	Abbreviation	Name	Abbreviation
ALABAMA	AL	MISSOURI	MO
ALASKA	AK	MONTANA	MT
ARIZONA	AZ	NEBRASKA	NE
ARKANSAS	AR	NEVADA	NV
CALIFORNIA	CA	NEW HAMPSHIRE	NH
COLORADO	CO	NEW JERSEY	NJ
CONNECTICUT	CT	NEW MEXICO	NM
DELAWARE	DE	NEW YORK	NY
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	DC	NORTH CAROLINA	NC
FLORIDA	FL	NORTH DAKOTA	ND
GEORGIA	GA	OHIO	OH
HAWAII	HI	OKLAHOMA	OK
IDAHO	ID	OREGON	OR
ILLINOIS	IL	PENNSYLVANIA	PA
INDIANA	IN	RHODE ISLAND	RI
IOWA	IA	SOUTH CAROLINA	SC
KANSAS	KS	SOUTH DAKOTA	SD
KENTUCKY	KY	TENNESSEE	TN
LOUISIANA	LA	TEXAS	TX
MAINE	ME	UTAH	UT
MARYLAND	MD	VERMONT	VT
MASSACHUSETTS	MA	VIRGINIA	VA
MICHIGAN	MI	WASHINGTON	WA
MINNESOTA	MN	WEST VIRGINIA	WV
MISSISSIPPI	MS	WISCONSIN	WI
		WYOMING	WY

passed requiring that voting places, drivers license examination stations, and buildings newly constructed or remodeled with public funds be made accessible. Surveys on accessibility were conducted in 65% of the states. Progress occurred in Idaho where local advocates and the Mayors' Committees have taken upon themselves the responsibility for monitoring compliance with the state's architectural barriers legislation.

The changing of **public attitudes** towards handicapped persons is a matter which receives a great deal of attention. Awareness campaigns were carried out in 71% of the states. In Maryland, the Frederick daily newspapers run a regular column devoted to the activities of handicapped citizens. Television stations in Baltimore present news stories, interviews, and multi-part features about the concerns and activities of handicapped people. In Southern California, Advocacy for Handicapped Citizens, Inc., a group in which White House Conference delegates are involved, received a grant to produce films on the rights of handicapped individuals.

In the area of **civil rights**, there has also been activity. The protection and advocacy system for developmentally disabled persons, which is mandated by Federal law, is functioning in 71% of these states. Legislation relating to civil rights of handicapped individuals was passed in 47% of the states. Demonstrations and/or education campaigns concerning civil rights took place in 47% of the states. Arizona reported a problem in defining the legal class "handicapped person," while Florida passed a very strong civil rights act concerning handicapped individuals.

Many states (65%) initiated changes in order to meet the **communication needs of deaf and hearing impaired persons**. Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Georgia established offices to advocate on behalf of deaf citizens. Also, 35% of the states passed reforms designed to aid blind and vision impaired persons.

Only a small amount of activity was reported in the White House Conference issue areas of **recreation, cultural programs, health, and special problems** of handicapped veterans and special populations. Only 41% of the states described achievements relating to leisure and cultural activities, and 35% told of action in the health field. What is probably the first respite care law in the nation was passed in Maryland. Beds and personnel in certain state institutions are now available for respite care. In Massachusetts, agency regulations are being prepared for the same purpose. In Arizona there is a new emphasis on early diagnosis and intervention.

Economic problems, however, received a great deal of attention. In 29% of the states, important civil service reform occurred. In Maryland, an executive order called for the hiring of handicapped employees by the state while authorizing job modification and the provisions of special equipment. Changes were also made in the form and the administration of competitive exams for state jobs. Baltimore now runs a federally funded pilot program for the training and placement of handicapped workers. Legislation in Maryland regarding tax relief, help for health related costs and a broader range of services is pending. State equal employment opportunity programs were established in some states and affirmative action programs were created in others to give a total of 53% of the states. Other examples of action relating to economic matters occurred in 47% of the states. South Carolina, for example, set up a training conference for all state agencies and now is planning another for all municipalities in the

(See State Activities, page 20)

Industry-Labor Council To Hold Fall Seminars

The Industry-Labor Council of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals will hold a series of seminars, conferences and workshops to commence in the Fall of 1978. The meetings will deal with medical-legal aspects of employment of handicapped individuals and attitudes toward the disabled worker.

The Industry-Labor Council was formed in 1976 to explore both the problems and the opportunities for employment of the nation's handicapped persons. The Council currently exists as a project of the national Center on Employment of the Handicapped, a part of the Human Resources Center in Albertson, New York. Dr. Henry Viscardi, Jr., Chairman of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals, is President of the Human Resources Center.

The Council is co-chaired by Charles H. Pillard, President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and A. Dean Swift, President of Sears, Roebuck & Co. Membership presently includes over one hundred labor unions and corporations.

For more information on the Council's upcoming seminars and workshops, contact Charles A. Lindberg, Industry-Labor Council, Human Resources Center, Albertson, N.Y. 11507, telephone (516) 747-5400, extension 275. A limited supply of the Council's published report to the White House Conference, *Steps: Handicapped Workers and Today's Labor Market*, is also available. Send a self-addressed mailing label to Mr. Lindberg at the above address.

Preparations Underway for White House Conference on Library and Information Services

by Helga Roth, Ph.D., Director, OHI Clearinghouse

Preparations are in full swing for a White House Conference on Library and Information Services to be held in Washington, D.C., October 28-November 4, 1979. The goal of the conference is to develop a National Program for Library and Information Services to correct current deficiencies, address future requirements, and coordinate and reinforce all Federal and State efforts to support local and specialized information services.

As in the case of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals, State conferences will be conducted prior to the National Conference, and will provide the ideas and issues which will shape the content of the national agenda. States are already contacting interested parties and are conducting public hearings or "Speak-outs" to drum up support for their conferences, most of which will be held between August 1978 and April 1979. (A few states have already completed their conferences.)

Under the auspices of the state/territorial library agency, 42-member planning committees are being established to organize and conduct the two and a half day state conferences. Participants will be drawn from a broad cross-section of the population, a third of which will represent the library/information community. Official delegates will number between 100 and 400 in addition to alternate delegates and non-voting delegates such as honorary invitees and guests. From these ranks will come the 568 voting delegates for the national White House Conference.

The delegates will examine and identify the needs, problems, and issues of their states and territories, and make policy and program recommendations which contain specific plans to address and resolve these issues.

The framework for the issues to be developed by the state conferences will conform to the following national program goals:

1. Ensure that basic library and information services are adequate to meet the needs of all local communities.
   (Information operations in the community should be reviewed in order to determine whether they can meet the basic information needs, e.g., where handicapped people can get services.)
2. Provide adequate special services to special constituencies including the unserved.
   (Handicapped consumers may wish to explore whether information is available in other than the printed media so as not to exclude the visually handicapped, or whether libraries are accessible to individuals in wheelchairs.)
3. Strengthen existing statewide resources and systems.
   (An obvious suggestion would be: Do you live in a state which provides very inadequate funding to its libraries and how does that impact on you?)
4. Ensure basic and continuing education of personnel essential to the implementation of a national program.
   (Handicapped individuals may ask whether the information providers and librarians are sensitive to handicapped individuals, and whether these professions are open to the handicapped.)
5. Coordinate existing Federal programs of library and information service.
   (Examine the Federal role in library and information services and some of the confusion created by categorical funding patterns.)
6. Encourage the private sector (comprising organizations not directly tax supported) to become an active partner in the development of the National Program.
   (Since many of the voluntary organizations serving the handicapped provide important information services, they will want to get involved in the National Program.)
7. Establish a locus of Federal responsibility charged with implementing the national network and coordinating the national program under the policy guidance of the National Commission.
   (Information services have no "home" in the Federal Government, which adds to the problem of coordination. It is high time the Federal Government put major responsibility for information and its development—which proceeds at an ever more rapid pace—on a recognizable entity which looks at the total picture, replacing the piecemeal treatment by separate departments.)
8. Plan, develop, and implement a nationwide network of library and information service.
   (Networking of existing services would eliminate some of the geographic "injustices" which make for vast differences in services according to localities.)

(continued on page 13)

Progress in Information Networking

Rehabilitation professionals from throughout the country gathered in Washington, D.C., recently to lay the ground work for a major "Information Network" for the field of rehabilitation.

The two-day conference, co-sponsored by the National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC) and the Clearinghouse on the Handicapped (OHI/DHEW), brought together for the first time some 100 information providers from a variety of programs funded by DHEW's Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA).

Participants included information producers/disseminators like the Regional Rehabilitation Research Institutes, the Rehabilitation Engineering Centers, and the Research and Training Centers; information users/disseminators such as the State focational rehabilitation information research utilization personnel or vocational rehabilitation librarians; and programs whose total focus is information gathering and dissemination like the National Clearinghouse of Rehabilitation Materials or the Materials Development Center.

The purpose of the conference was to develop more formal linkages between the programs in order to make more effective use of information generated by RSA-funded activities. This concept was clearly supported by RSA Commissioner Robert R. Humphreys, who stated in an opening address that an information network would significantly contribute to setting a "national policy for the disabled," a major goal of his administration.

For two days, participants discussed the network concept and possible strategies under which such a formalized network would operate. It was recognized, however, that the basis of success lies in cooperative efforts and the establishment of an ongoing up-to-date system of information retrieval and dissemination. Optimally, a network should make information more accessible to potential users, reduce the uncertainties of **who** to direct inquiries to, and upgrade the quality of information provided.

A long road lies ahead, but out of this conference will come resolutions for action and cooperation, a directory of nationwide information resource organizations in the field of rehabilitation, the establishment of support committees, and a renewed commitment to **use** information for the improvement of services to disabled individuals.

In the future, the network hopes to also include rehabilitation information providers who are not connected with RSA. And eventually, the Rehabilitation Information Network will be one of several "mini-networks" in a much larger network which will include all information providers on handicapping conditions and related services.

For more information on the outcome of this conference, please write:

Judith J. Senkevitch, Director
National Rehabilitation Information Center
308 Mullen Library
Catholic University of America
Washington, D.C. 20064
Tel: (202) 635-5826

(continued from page 12)

We are all consumers of information obtained through libraries or any of the multitude of different information operations. Having access to information may be literally a matter of life or death in medical decision-making or simply enhancing the quality of our lives in mining the cultural riches of our libraries. We cannot afford not to have our voices heard when the issues of availability of services, access to services, or quality of services are being debated.

Handicapped individuals have many information needs which are not or are only poorly met at present. Hopefully, state and national conferences will provide an opportunity to bring these needs to general attention and to recommend appropriate strategies to improve library and information services to the handicapped.

The Clearinghouse on the Handicapped is preparing a package of information and library recommendations from the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals which will be sent to all state conference coordinators.

People interested in participating can contact the state library agency or write to:

Miss Jean-Ann South
Program and Planning Consultant
White House Conference on Library
and Information Services
1717 K Street, N.W., Suite 601
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: (202) 653-6252

Adams Renews Support for Transbus

Transportation Secretary Brock Adams joined with the American Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities recently in an attempt to save the controversial "Transbus" program from delay and possible dilution.

Since ordering more than a year ago that all normal-sized buses purchased by local transit systems receiving federal subsidies (which are virtually all big-city systems) must meet Transbus specifications after September 30, 1979, the ruling has run into stiff opposition from the bus manufacturing industry and some Members of Congress.

An amendment to a transportation authorization bill approved this May by the House Public Works and Transportation Committee calls for Secretary Adams to reevaluate the Transbus order. Adams responded that the order should not be extended nor studied any more.

General Motors President E. M. Estes has called the Transbus requirement to add wheelchair ramps and low boarding steps to buses a "serious mistake." He says the ramps would be "too steep for many—perhaps most—handicapped people to use."

The Grumman Corporation, manufacturer of the Grumman Flxible bus, supports Transbus but also favors a reevaluation of the rule because of uncertainties over design features. And AM General recently announced that it would stop building buses because of the confusion over pending regulations.

Despite the mounting confusion over the prospects for Transbus, the *Washington Post* points out that "bus manufacturers and transit agencies have already taken steps to redesign their buses to improve service for handicapped and elderly riders. Washington's Metro system, for example, has recently ordered 281 new Flxible buses, including 150 outfitted with wheelchair lifts for handicapped passengers."

Title V of the Rehabilitation Act, states NCLH in its brief, is a comprehensive scheme to promote and expand employment opportunities, and its provisions must be viewed as a whole and interpreted consistently. Therefore, because the majority of the courts have found an implied cause of action under Section 504, Section 503 should be interpreted similarly.

National Center Urges That Federal Legislation For the Employment of the Handicapped Should be Strongly Enforced

In its continued efforts to convince the courts that the U.S. Congress intended Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to be effectively enforced, the National Center for Law and the Handicapped (NCLH) has submitted a brief of *amicus curiae* in the employment rights case of *Moon* v. *Roadway Express*.

In its brief to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, NCLH asserts that Section 503 prohibits employment discrimination against the handicapped, as well as requires affirmative action on the part of federal contractors with contracts of over $2500, and that handicapped individuals can bring a private cause of action in federal court to enforce their rights under Section 503. NCLH urges the court to consider the legislative history of the statute, as well as the applicability of legal precedents to this case.

The Center's brief argues that Congress intended this important Act to be a "working mechanism for combating discrimination and ensuring an effective Rehabilitation Act." Furthermore, congressional records show a continual concern that the Rehabilitation Act be enforced effectively.

As *amicus curiae*, NCLH concludes that it is necessary to judicially create a cause of action under Section 503 in order to achieve the congressional intent that the statute be effectively enforced.

For more information contact:

Jean Postlewaite
Director of Public Education
National Center for Law
and the Handicapped, Inc.
1235 North Eddy Street
South Bend, Indiana 46617
Tel: (219) 288-4751

H.E.W.'s Office for Civil Rights Installs Special Equipment for the Deaf

Special equipment on which deaf persons can send and receive typed messages through standard telephone lines has been installed in Washington, D.C., the 10 regional offices, and the Cleveland area office of HEW's Office for Civil Rights.

These teletype systems (TTYs) will assist OCR in carrying out its responsibilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap in all federally-assisted programs and institutions.

The new equipment will make it possible for OCR staff in Washington and the regional offices to communicate with deaf persons who own or have access to similar units. The units consist of a phone dial, a TV screen for reading incoming messages, and a special tape recorder. Deaf persons use the system by dialing special OCR phone numbers, then typing out their message on a keyboard. At the other end of the line, the typed message is displayed on a 12-inch black and white video screen. If the person on the receiving end wants to keep a permanent record of the conversation, he can type-record the individual tones that each key makes and from this recording obtain a printout of the conversation. Conversations would be recorded only with the knowledge and consent of the person calling the agency.

In addition to the permanent office units, OCR has also obtained 14 smaller, portable units which will be used by field investigators or in meetings attended by deaf persons.

OCR has conducted two staff training sessions in order to teach staff how to utilize the new equipment. In addition, OCR will make information about the new equipment available to organizations of deaf persons, advocacy groups and other organizations which communicate with the deaf.

"These units will allow OCR to communicate in an expeditious manner with those persons with hearing impairments to answer their questions, and assist them in understanding their rights," said David S. Tatel, Director of Office for Civil Rights. "We will make special efforts to let deaf people know that they now are able to bring their questions and complaints to this agency on a basis comparable to the telephone service accorded those who are not deaf."

The list of regional offices, the numbers that can be called by teletypewriter, and the states served by each regional office follows:

Boston 617-223-4000
(Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont)

New York 212-264-9464
(New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands)

Philadelphia 215-596-6794
(Delaware, D.C., Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia)

Atlanta 404-221-2010
(Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee)

Chicago 312-353-1949
(Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin)

Dallas 214-767-6599
(Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas)

Kansas City 816-374-5025
(Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska)

Denver 303-837-3439
(Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming)

San Francisco 415-556-1933
(Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Guam, American Samoa)

Seattle 206-442-7486
(Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington)

Cleveland Office 216-522-7022
(Cleveland area)

Headquarters 202-472-2916
(Washington, D.C.)

HUD Selects States For Mental Health Demonstration Housing

Housing and Urban Development Secretary Patricia Roberts Harris recently announced the selection of 14 states to participate in a unique demonstration housing program for persons with chronic mental illness.

The "Demonstration Program for Deinstitutionalization of the Chronically Mentally Ill" was first announced by Secretary Harris and First Lady Rosalynn Carter on June 15, 1978. Each state was invited to compete for the community-based housing demonstration at that time. Forty-five states submitted proposals and 14 states have been determined to be eligible.

The States of Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont have been notified of their eligibility for the program.

The highly original program marks the first time HUD and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare have worked in tandem through the states to address both the housing and the support service needs that persons with chronic mental illness often face in their return to community based living. The program will be funded by $15 million of HUD Direct Mortgage Loans for construction, $3 million of HUD rent subsidy funds to supplement residents' incomes, and a waiver system which states can use to channel HEW support services funds to the residential program.

The Deinstitutionalization Housing program will afford private, nonprofit sponsors in each eligible state an opportunity to join in a partnership with Federal and State governments to address the persistent housing and human service needs of persons with chronic mental illness who are capable of living in community based housing. The focus of the program will allow for HUD and HEW funds to be targeted in those states with not only the most need, but also the most resources to insure that a successful program for the chronically mentally ill is achieved.

The program will also serve as a model to demonstrate how Federal, State and private resources can be mobilized on a national scale to address the residential and service needs of hundreds of thousands of persons with chronic mental illness now residing in large State or county-operated institutions.

The demonstration will be administered by HUD according to procedures already established in the Section 202 Direct Loan Program.

Final awards will be made prior to October 1, 1978. For more information, contact:

Gail Gebran
U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development
Room 9106
451 7th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20410
Tel: (202) 755-7366

KRM Draws Crowds at HEW 25th Anniversary

The Kurzweil Reading Machine was one of four featured technological exhibits at the recent 25th anniversary celebration of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Selected as the outstanding demonstration of the application of technology to the needs of the blind, the KRM was on display in the lobby of the new Hubert H. Humphrey Building in Washington during the May 23-24 event. The Bureau of Education for the Handicapped and the Rehabilitation Services Administration have funded the distribution and evaluation of the machine in schools and other settings.

Announcements

Rehabilitation Conference

The Menninger Foundation will sponsor a national conference on the psychological aspects of rehabilitation in Topeka, Kansas, October 5-7, 1978. The conference will attempt to bring together professionals in the wide field of rehabilitation to address the problem of coordination and delivery of services to the handicapped. The goal will be to provide a forum from which a wide variety of issues and experiences can be brought together. "The conference provides," as director James C. Folsom, M.D., states, "an opportunity to listen, to grow, to break with tradition, and to melt away prejudice, superstitions and myths." For more information contact: Mrs. June Housholder, Coordinator of Continuing Education, The Menninger Foundation, Box 829, Topeka, Kansas 66601. Tel.: (913) 234-9566, ext. 3685.

Disabled Expo West

Disabled Expo West, an international exposition of space-age gadgetry for the disabled, will be held in San Francisco, May 26-28, 1979. The Expo. sponsored by Garden Sullivan Rehabilitation of Pacific Medical Center, will feature an array of prototypes, interior designs, recreation ideas, and services.

Expo officials are appealing to inventors and developers of special equipment for the disabled, and plan to exhibit as many as possible in an effort to stimulate manufacture. For more information, contact: Disabled Expo West, 2750 Geary Street, San Francisco, California 94118. Tel.: (415) 922-7161.

Kennedy Institute for Handicapped Children Holds Developmental Disabilities Conference

Autism, behavioral medicine, education, genetics, and social and ethical issues were the focus of the John F. Kennedy Institute for Handicapped Children's conference on "Developmental Disabilities: Future Directions and the Challenge of Applying What We Know," held June 14-16 in Baltimore, Md.

The keynote address for the conference was given by Dr. Julius Richmond, Surgeon General of the United States, and guest lecturers included: Dr. Wilbur Cohen, Dean, University of Michigan School of Education; Dr. Carl Haywood, Professor of Psychology and Special Education, Peabody College; and Dr. Gunnar Dybwad, Emeritus Professor of Human Development, Florence Heller Graduate School, Brandeis University.

Experts from the Kennedy Institute and Johns Hopkins offered presentations on the various topics as part of a course that Dr. Hugo W. Moser, Director of the Kennedy Institute, says has been "designed to explore the multiple aspects of developmental disabilities, both at the basic science and the applied level." The challenge to the conference members, said Moser, would then be "delivering the benefits of this knowledge to developmentally disabled persons and their families."

The three-day conference was the culmination of a year of scientific conferences held in conjunction with the tenth anniversary of the John F. Kennedy Institute for Handicapped Children.

The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine certifies that this continuing medical education activity meets the criteria for 21 credit hours in Category 1 of the Physician's Recognition Award of the American Medical Association.

For more information on the conference, contact:

Mrs. Kathy Cloyd
The John F. Kennedy Institute
for Handicapped Children
707 North Broadway
Baltimore, Maryland 21205
Tel: (301) 955-4432

Down's Syndrome Congress

The Down's Syndrome Congress Sixth Annual Convention will be held in Boston, November 11 and 12, 1978. The program will cover a gamut of topics including workshops involving parent groups, physical and occupational therapy, religious concerns, weight control, research update, siblings, and a workshop for professionals. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Allen Crocker, Director of the Developmental Evaluation Clinic at Children's Hospital in Boston. Dr. John Rynders, DSC board member and professor of Special Education from the University of Minnesota, will be speaking on Project Edge.

All persons interested in Down's syndrome are invited to attend. You need not be a member of the Down's Syndrome Congress to attend the convention. For more information, contact Joe Canning, 35 Narragansett Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02861. Tel.: (401) 723-[illegible]489.

Special Education Products

Linc Services, Inc., recently awarded licenses to Selective Education Equipment, Inc. (SEE), Newton, Mass., and Encyclopaedia Britannica Educational Corp. (EBE), Chicago, Ill., for two special education products developed by the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped. SEE will distribute *What If You Couldn't*, a multi-media program composed of seven units about handicaps designed to sensitize elementary school nondisabled children to a range of handicapping conditions. EBE will distribute "People You'd Like to Know," ten 10-minute films to help nonhandicapped children respond positively to handicapped children in schools. For more information about the project and how to acquire BEH-developed materials, contact Victor Fuchs, Director, Market Linkage Project for Special Education, Linc Services Inc., 829 Eastwind Drive, Westerville, Ohio 43081. Tel.: (614) 890-8200.

AAESPH Conference

"Focus on Quality," the fifth annual conference of the American Association for the Education of the Severely-/Profoundly Handicapped, will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, October 25-27, 1978. The only national conference exclusively concerned with severely/profoundly handicapped citizens, "Focus on Quality" will bring together the leaders in all areas of this field to share ideas and strategies. Presentations will concentrate on seventeen of the currently most talked about topics in education and living for this population. Over 150 speakers and exhibitors will share their knowledge via discussions and audio-visual presentations. For more information, write: American Association for the Education of the Severely/Profoundly Handicapped, 1600 West Armory Way, Seattle, Washington 98119.

Research Writing Contest

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped has recently announced its annual "Ability Counts" Research Writing Contest. The theme for 1979 is "A Ramp Is a Step Ahead." The contest is first conducted on the State level, with the finalist competing in a national contest. All juniors and seniors in high school are eligible to enter. This is an opportunity for them to possibly win cash prizes ranging from $500 to $2,000. For more information on contest rules and procedures, write: "Ability Counts" Research Writing Contest, the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D.C. 20210. Tel.: (202) 653-5008.

New Publications

International Access Guide

Due to popular demand, Rehabilitation International U.S.A., publishers of *Rehabilitation World*, will reprint their *1978-79 International Directory of Access Guides* for free distribution to disabled individuals, their families, and voluntary and other nonprofit organizations. The directory contains 275 currently available access guides for the disabled, compiled by the travel survey staff of *Rehabilitation World*. For a free copy, write to: Access Guide, Rehabilitation International U.S.A., 20 West 40th St., New York, NY 10018.

Access Booklet

A Guide to Community Action, published by the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, describes the Institute's project ACCESS CHICAGO. With this project, the Institute has developed a unified approach to the barriers problem, utilizing a variety of community groups and resources. Its projects have been geared towards general public awareness as well as consultation with business and government bodies on specific barrier problems. The booklet describes the project's history, methods of operation, and Federal barriers legislation, and contains a list of resource persons and organizations. Available from: ACCESS CHICAGO, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, 345 E. Superior Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611. Tel.: (312) 525-2071.

Communication Aids and Techniques

Communication Outlook is a new quarterly newsletter addressed to all individuals interested in the application of modern technology to the needs of persons who experience communication handicaps due to neurological or neuromuscular conditions. The newsletter will serve as a forum for ideas, issues and new developments in this field. *Communication Outlook* is edited and published jointly by the Artificial Language Laboratory, Computer Science Department, Michigan State University, and the TRACE Research and Development Center for the Severely Communicatively Handicapped, University of Wisconsin, Madison. It is the principal publication of the International Action Group for Communication Enhancement. Subscriptions are $10 per year ($12 outside North America). Single copies are available for $3.00. For more information, write to: Communication Outlook, Artificial Language Laboratory, Computer Science Department, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824.

Mentally Retarded Children

Reaching Out to Parents of Newly Diagnosed Retarded Children, available from the St. Louis Association for Retarded Children, is a training manual for people and organizations who want to develop a parent-to-parent intervention program. Called the Parent Outreach Program, the program responds to the needs of families with newborn or newly diagnosed mentally retarded children. Based on the belief that early intervention with parents is crucial, support is given by professionally trained parent volunteers who have themselves experienced and resolved similar concerns. Copies of the guide are available for $1.50 each and can be obtained by contacting: Parent Outreach, St. Louis Association for Retarded Children, 1240 Dautel Lane, P.O. Box 27480, St. Louis, Missouri 63141. Tel.: (314) 569-2211.

Sourcebooks on Handicaps and Aging

The Minnesota Home Economics Association has recently produced two annotated sourcebooks, *Developing Potentials for Handicaps* and *Developing Insights into Aging*. These books contain annotated listings for both administrative and service professionals and interested lay persons. The comprehensive directories contain resources representative of social services, businesses, medical facilities, private organizations, scholars, authors, educational institutions, and government concerns. Annotations for each include descriptions of resource, price, ordering information, possible applications, and audience suitability. Single copy cost for each is $4.75 (10% discount on 10 copies or more). Available from: Minnesota Home Economics Association, c/o Garret Russel, 452 Upton Ave., South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55405. Tel.: (612) 374-1318.

Self-Help Devices

Aids to Make You Able, by Wendy Davis, gives a "panoramic" view of self-help devices for handicapped individuals. The book is easy to read, and is well illustrated. A number of the devices mentioned can easily be made at home at minimal cost. Copies are available from: Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada (Prairie Division), 641 Tegler Building, 10189-101 St., Edmonton, Alberta. T5J0T8

Community Competencies

Community Competencies for the Handicapped, published by Charles C Thomas, presents an individualized learning program to enable persons with all types of handicaps—mental, physical and developmental—to receive the instruction necessary to qualify for a high school equivalency certificate. Over 100 milestone competencies and performance indicators in ten major subject areas form the basis of this program. Price: $10.75. Available from: Charles C Thomas, Publisher, 301-327 East Lawrence Ave., Springfield, Illinois 62703.

Wheelchair Sports

Wheelchair Champions, by Harriet May Savitz, is the first history of the development of wheelchair sports. The book chronicles the sport from its beginnings, with the establishment of wheelchair basketball and football at veteran's hospitals in the 1940's to today's international network of competition in wheelchair track and field, swimming, archery, table tennis, weight-lifting, bowling, and a variety of other sports. Price: $7.95. Available from: Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 10 East 53rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10022.

Crip-Trips

Produced by the Center for Independent Living in Berkeley, California, the new 16 minute, 16mm film, Crip Trip, is described by its makers as being "designed to raise questions and provoke discussion in workshops or seminars. It is a sensitizing tool which helps overcome fear and anxiety about disability. The film speaks to people with disabilities by heightening their awareness of their own potential for independence. It is also intended for people who interact with the disabled in their work." Rental: $20 plus handling (applied to purchase within 30 days). Purchase price: $150. Available from: Canyon Cinema Coop, 2325 3rd St., Suite 338, San Francisco, California 94107. Tel.: (415) 626-2255.

CORRECTION

Programs for the Handicapped, 78-3 incorrectly listed the price of the film "I'll Find a Way" as $450. The correct price is $415. The film may be obtained by contacting:

Media Guild
P.O. Box 881
Solana Beach, CA 92075

State Activities

(Continued from page 11)

State. Florida presented a series of workshops on Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

With the advent of P.L. 94-142 and Section 504, there is a great deal of activity at all levels in regard to **education**. There are developments in 71% of the states, New Jersey leading the way by establishing an advisory board which apparently will have real impact. Legislation was passed in 29% of the states extending and complementing mandated federal actions. In those same states, significant non-governmental activity was cited as occurring on behalf of handicapped individuals and education.

In the field of **housing**, only South Dakota could report that legislation had passed, with 41% of the states indicating other types of activity. There is evidence, however, that these actions are having impact. In New Jersey, a statewide steering committee has been established to develop housing for handicapped persons. A survey to measure the housing needs of 10,000 New Jersey residents is also underway. In Maryland, federal funding mechanisms are being used to create new housing. Now that group residences are authorized by statute in all parts of that state, Montgomery County and Baltimore City corporations are working to establish housing for handicapped people. Washington is holding a conference concerning the use of existing mechanisms to obtain more housing.

Much more activity was reported in the field of **transportation** with 71% of the states indicating governmental action taken and 24% mentioning the passing of legislation. Planners of the proposed Baltimore subway system are working with a committee of handicapped citizens. A pilot paratransit system with 2,200 users now exists in that city. While Baltimore refuses to retrofit existing buses to make them accessible, New Jersey is doing so for 80 buses, Massachusetts is requiring that at least one-third of its new buses have lifts added, and Michigan is establishing a moratorium on the spending of new funds for transportation until accessibility is guaranteed. Washington, where water transportation is important, made its ferry boats accessible.

One of the strongest supported recommendations at the White House Conference urged the **establishment of a state office** to work on behalf of handicapped individuals. The creation of such an office occurred in 35% of the states, and significant progress is being made in another 53%. The need to establish a governmental focus to advocate, coordinate, and monitor the implementation of the recommendations is an important one. Some types of state conferences of handicapped persons are planned in 35% of the states, while another 29% have already held such a function. The role of handicapped citizens in policy formation is expanding, and the influence of that "last minority" is finally being felt. Perhaps this development is best represented in the policy declaration of the Texas legislature which states that handicapped persons must be able to live independent lives with dignity and full participation in the community. The Governor of Texas endorsed that policy and the people of Texas will vote on a constitutional amendment embodying it during the 1978 general election this November.

The voice of the handicapped community, as transmitted through the White House Conference, is now being heard and some progress is being made. More important than any single change, however, is the evolution of the handicapped community from a group of individuals to a committed citizens group working to construct an environment in which disabled persons can realize the White House Conference goal: an independent life with dignity and full participation in the community.

New from OHI

BARRIER-FREE ENVIRONMENT RESOURCE GUIDE

- **Information sources**
- **Funding guide**
- **Bibliography of Federal publications**

Available without charge from:

Office for Handicapped Individuals, DHEW
338D Hubert Humphrey Building
200 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201
Tel: (202) 245-1961